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September 12, 1995

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AUGUSTINE NAMED TO TASK FORCE

CHARLESTON -- The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) has named Robert M. Augustine, professor and chair of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences at Eastern Illinois University, to serve on ASHA's Task Force on Treatment Outcomes and Cost Effectiveness.

His role includes assisting with the development of a national data base on the treatment outcomes and costs of speech-language pathology and audiology services.

He also chaired the subcommittee responsible for education of professionals and students on managed care contracting using cost data.

His work includes meetings with Illinois legislators to identify the data needed to insure continued coverage of speech pathology and audiology services by Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance plans and newly proposed national health plans.

In June, Augustine met with U.S. Senators Paul Simon and Carol Mosley Braun and U.S. Representative Glenn Poshard to share the initial actuarial data obtained by the task force and to discuss legislative support for rehabilitation services.

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AUGUSTINE

He will return to Washington, D.C., later this fall to examine the initial data obtained from the national outcomes project and to help develop the final parameters for the national data base.